



**False friends of**

**Aim: to reveal the main features of the “translator’s false friends”**

- *To give the definition of the “translator’s false friends”.*
- *To reveal the reasons of “translator’s false friends’ ” formation.*
- *To make the practical research on this problem*

False friends of translator are pairs of **words** in two **languages** or **dialects** (or letters in two alphabets) that look and/or sound similar, but differ in meaning.

It lasted the whole decade.

*Это продолжалось целое десятилетие*

| THE WORD OF THE COMBINATION OF WORDS | THE WRONG TRANSLATION | TERMINOLOGICALLY RIGHT TRANSLATION |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Выступать официально (для печати)    | To speak officially   | To go on record (for the press)    |
| Газифицировать                       | To gasify             | Gas supply, to provide gas         |
| Гениальное изобретение               | Genial invention      | Great invention                    |

# “TRANSLATOR’S FALSE FRIENDS” ARE PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL PROBLEMS.

These problems result in different meaning of words appeared in various materials and documents. We must distinguish oral and written forms of “translator’s false friends”.

*“I have been in a positive state of excitement”*

*Я находилась в позитивном состоянии возбуждения*

- **The wrong translation**

*Я была по – настоящему взволнована*

- **Right translation**

# IN WHAT PARTS OF SPEECH WE CAN FIND “TRANSLATOR’S FALSE FRIENDS”.

*In English and Russian languages “translator’s false friends”, which count a few thousands of words, can be found in four parts of speech; noun, verb, adverb and adjective. In most cases, this role is performed by rather all representatives of related word – forming family of words that single words.*

- **“concern”** – in English it means «участие», «фирма», «предприятие», «хлопоты» - it has more general meanings; in Russian it means «концерн», - it has more limited meanings.
- English word **“artist”** means a man of art in the general meaning of this word; also it means «художник», «живописец», «график», «мастер своего дела»

# TRANSLATOR'S FALSE FRIENDS" CAN MISLEAD PEOPLE, WHO STARTED TO LEARN ENGLISH AND WHO KNOW ENGLISH VERY WELL.

Comparison of some "translator's false friends" in English language and Russian language:

Актуальный – pressing, urgent, topical

Actual – фактический, действительный

Амуниция – accoutrement

Ammunition – боеприпасы

Аспирант – post – graduate

Aspirant – кандидат, претендент

График – time table, schedule

Graphic –наглядный

Дирекция – board, management

Direction – направление

Облигация –bond

Obligation – обязательство

Фабрика – factory, mill

Fabric – остов

# THE CAUSES OF THE “TRANSLATOR’S FALSE FRIENDS” FORMATION

The false friends can be created in several ways:

- *Borrowing.*
- *Homonyms.*
- *Different alphabets or homoglyphs.*
- *Pseudo-anglicisms.*
- *Idioms.*

# “TRANSLATOR’S FALSE FRIENDS” AND TYPES OF TRANSLATION.

## *First method – borrowing.*

- It is the easiest method of translation. Borrowing would not be method or translation of high interest for research, if the translator did not need it to create stylistic effect.
- *Second method – loan translation.* It is special kind of borrowing. Thus, there is a case of either loan translation of expression, using syntactical structures of translation language and adding new expressive elements. For example:

English word “*excavator*” – Russian word “*экскаватор*”.



- ***Third method- literal translation (word-for-translation)***. It means transfer from original language to language of translation, which allows creating correct and idiomatic text, in the meanwhile, translator controls over observance of compulsory language norms.

For example:

***“I left my spectacles on the table downstairs.”***

*«Я оставила свои очки на столе».*

- ***Fourth method – transposition.***

This method of translation assumes replacing one part of speech without changing the meaning of the whole text.

- ***Fifth method – equivalention.***

Two texts described the same situation using absolutely different stylistic and structural features. In this case we apply an equivalention.

# APPENDIX

## Аудитория vs Auditorium

Аудитория -- **audience**  
**Auditorium** -- зал

Это была внимательная аудитория. = It was an attentive audience.

## Декорация vs Decoration

Декорация -- **setting**  
**Decoration** -- украшение, убранство

Мне не понравились декорации. = I didn't like the settings.

## Интеллигентный vs Intelligent

Интеллигентный -- **cultured**  
**Intelligent** -- умный, разумный

Он интеллигентный человек. = He is a cultured man.

## Комплекция vs Complexion

Комплекция -- **constitution**  
**Complexion** -- цвет лица

У него крепкая комплекция. = He has a robust constitution.

## Проспект vs Prospect

Проспект -- **avenue**  
**Prospect** -- вид, перспектива

Машина едет по широкому проспекту. = The car is going along a broad avenue.